



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/677,060	09/29/2000	Krishna Kishore Dhara	Dhara 2-2-1	1685
26291	7590	09/08/2004	EXAMINER	
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN L.L.P. 595 SHREWSBURY AVE, STE 100 FIRST FLOOR SHREWSBURY, NJ 07702			KADING, JOSHUA A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2661	

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/677,060	DHARA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joshua Kading	2661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

5 The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

10 In regard to claims 32-34, applicant discloses "a switch for converting data packets to circuit switched traffic and vice versa." It is unclear how a switch can convert data from one thing to another (i.e. from packets to circuit switched traffic and vice versa) as switches only route or direct data to the appropriate destination(s) and do not manipulate or process data.

15

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

20 Claims 1-8, 11-19, 23-28, and 35-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamalainen et al. (U.S. Patent 5,802,465) in view of Valentine et al. (U.S. Patent 6,363,253 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Hamalainen discloses "a method of transporting bifurcated voice and signaling data over a network, comprising the steps of:

identifying, for each communication link to be established, respective signaling data and voice data (figure 2, where it is clear that there is voice or speech data and 5 signaling or control data)..."

However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine discloses, that is "transmitting said signaling data via a first network and said voice data via a second network, wherein the first network is different from the second network (col. 3, lines 11-17)."

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of 10 invention to include the first and second networks with the rest of the method for the purpose of having a dedicated network for setup of calls (Valentine, col. 2, lines 19-26). The motivation being that having a dedicated network for call setup saves resources and doesn't tie up traffic.

15 In regard to claim 2, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 1. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said first network is a wireless network (figure 2, where the first network used for signalling is a wireless network as is clear from the figure)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the wireless network with the method of 20 claim 1 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

In regard to claim 3, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 1.

However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said second network is a data packet network (figure 2, where it is clear the second network (used for voice) is a packet network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the packet network with the method of claim 1 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

In regard to claim 4, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 1.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "communicating said signaling data to a switch (figure 1B where the signaling data from the mobile stations is communicated to the MSC or Mobile Switching Unit)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the communicating signaling data to a switch with the method of claim 1 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

15

In regard to claim 5, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 1.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "communicating said voice data to a switch (figure 1B where the voice data from the mobile stations is communicated to the MSC or Mobile Switching Unit)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the communicating voice data to a switch with the method of claim 1 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 1.

In regard to claim 6, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 3.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said voice data is subject to compression processing compatible with a wireless network (col. 6, lines 58-

5 62 where the data compressed is taken to be voice data)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the compression of voice data with the method of claim 3 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 3.

10 In regard to claim 7, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 4.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said step of communicating is made via a base station system (figure 1B where the data from the mobile stations is communicated via a base station system or the BTS and BSC)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to

15 include communicating via base station system with the method of claim 4 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 4.

In regard to claim 8, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 5.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said step of

20 communicating is made via a switch adapted to perform packet to circuit switched conversion and vice versa (figure 1B where the MSC acts as a packet switch for the wireless system)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the

time of invention to include communicating via a switch with the method of claim 5 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 5.

Regarding claim 11, Hamalainen disclose "in a communication system for

5 transporting bifurcated voice and signaling traffic over a network, a method comprising the steps of:

segregating signaling traffic and related voice traffic including information useful in establishing a communications link for transporting said voice traffic between a calling party and a called party (figure 2, where it is clear that the voice or speech data and 10 signaling or control data are segregated into two channels)..."

However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine discloses, that is "transmitting said voice traffic via said communications link established by a controller, said voice traffic and said signaling traffic being carried via different communication networks (col. 3, lines 11-17)."

15 It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the different networks with the rest of the method for the purpose of having a dedicated network for setup of calls (Valentine, col. 2, lines 19-26). The motivation being that having a dedicated network for call setup saves resources and doesn't tie up traffic.

20

In regard to claim 12, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 11. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "one of said

communication networks is a data packet network (figure 2, where it is clear the second network (used for voice) is a packet network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the packet network with the method of claim 11 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

5

In regard to claim 13, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 12. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said voice traffic is carried by said data packet network (figure 2, where it is clear the second network (used for voice) is a packet network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in 10 the art at the time of invention to include the voice traffic over the packet network with the method of claim 12 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 12.

In regard to claim 14, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 13. However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said voice traffic is 15 subject to compression processing compatible with a wireless network (col. 6, lines 58-62 where the data compressed is taken to be voice data)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the compression with the method of claim 13 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 13.

20 Regarding claim 15, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 11. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "one of said communication networks is a wireless network (figure 2, where the first network used for

signalling is a wireless network as is clear from the figure)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the wireless network with the method of claim 11 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

5

Regarding claim 16, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 15. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said signaling traffic is carried by said wireless network (figure 2 where the wireless network carries signaling data to the signaling network as stated in col. 3, lines 11-17)." It would have 10 been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the signaling data over the wireless network with the method of claim 15 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 15.

In regard to claim 17, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 11. 15 However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said controller is a switch (figure 1B where the controller or BSC clearly routes or switches the calls to the appropriate base stations for further transmission)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the switch controller with the method of claim 11 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

20

In regard to claim 18, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 11. However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said signaling

traffic is transmitted to said controller via a base station system (figure 1B where the signaling data from the mobile stations is communicated via a base station system or the BTS and BSC).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the signaling traffic transmitted to a controller via a base station system with the method of claim 11 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

In regard to claim 19, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 11. However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is “said voice traffic is communicated to said controller via a switch adapted to perform packet to circuit switched conversion and vice versa. (figure 1B where the MSC acts as a packet switch for the wireless system).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include communicating via a switch with the method of claim 11 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 11.

15

Regarding claim 23, Hamalainen discloses “in a communication system for transporting bifurcated voice and signaling traffic between a calling party and called party, a method comprising the steps of:

identifying a call request (figure 5, where the channel request step and the response indicates a call request being identified)...”

However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine discloses, that is establishing a signaling link to a switch via a first transport network (col. 3, lines 11-17); and

establishing a voice path to said switch via a second transport network responsive to a determination that said called party answers, said first transport network being different from said second transport network (col. 3, lines 11-17)."

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of

5 invention to include the first and second networks with the rest of the method for the purpose of having a dedicated network for setup of calls (Valentine, col. 2, lines 19-26).

The motivation being that having a dedicated network for call setup saves resources and doesn't tie up traffic.

10 In regard to claim 24, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 23. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said first network is a wireless network (figure 2, where the first network used for signalling is a wireless network as is clear from the figure)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the wireless network with the method of
15 claim 23 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 23.

In regard to claim 25, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 24. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "signaling traffic is transmitted over said wireless network (col. 3, lines 11-17)." It would have been obvious
20 to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the signalling traffic over the wireless network with the method of claim 24 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 24.

In regard to claim 26, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 26. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said second network is a data packet network (figure 2, where it is clear the second network (used for voice) is a packet network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the packet network with the method of claim 26 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 26.

In regard to claim 27, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 26.

10 However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "voice traffic is communicated over said data packet network (figure 2, where it is clear the second network (used for voice) is a packet network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the voice traffic over the packet network with the method of claim 26 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim

15 26.

In regard to claim 28, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 27. However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine further discloses, that is "said voice traffic is subject to compression processing compatible with a wireless network (col. 6, lines 58-62 where the data compressed is taken to be voice data)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the compression with the method of claim 27 for the same reasons and motivation as in claim 27.

Regarding claim 35, Hamalainen discloses "...a method comprising:

segregating signaling traffic and related voice traffic including information useful in establishing a communications link for transporting said voice traffic between a calling 5 party and called party (figure 2, where it is clear that the voice or speech data and signaling or control data are segregated into two channels)..."

However, Hamalainen lacks what Valentine discloses, that is "transmitting said voice traffic via said communications link established by a controller, said voice traffic and said signaling traffic being carried via different communication networks (col. 3, 10 lines 11-17)."

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the first and second networks with the rest of the method for the purpose of having a dedicated network for setup of calls (Valentine, col. 2, lines 19-26). The motivation being that having a dedicated network for call setup saves resources 15 and doesn't tie up traffic.

However, Hamalainen and Valentine both lack "a computer readable medium storing a software program, that when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform a method..."

Although Hamalainen and Valentine lack a computer program for executing the 20 method, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program for executing the method because a

computer program is the only efficient, feasible way of executing the method. The motivation being a fast execution of the method.

In regard to claim 36, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 35.

5 However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "wherein said controller is a switch (figure 1B where the controller or BSC clearly routes or switches the calls to the appropriate base stations for further transmission)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the switch as a controller with the method of claim 35 for the same reasons and motivations as in

10 claim 35.

In regard to claim 37, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 35.

However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "signaling traffic is communicated via a wireless network (figure 1B shows the wireless network associated 15 with the signals of claim 23)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the signalling traffic communicated via a wireless network with the method of claim 35 for the same reasons and motivations as in claim 35.

20 In regard to claim 38, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 35. However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "said voice traffic is communicated via a data packet network (figure 1B where the voice traffic from the

mobile stations must carried to and through the TCP/IP network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the voice traffic communicated via a data packet network with the method of claim 35 for the same reasons and motivations as in claim 35.

5

In regard to claim 39, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the method of claim 38. However, Valentine lacks what Hamalainen further discloses, that is "wherein said voice traffic is subject to compression processing compatible with a wireless network (col. 6, lines 58-62 where the data compressed is taken to be voice data)." It would have been 10 obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the compression with the method of claim 38 for the same reasons and motivations as in claim 38.

Claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 30, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being 15 unpatentable over Hamalainen and Valentine as applied to claims 1, 11, and 23 above, and further in view of Kung et al. (U.S. Patent 6,252,952 B1).

Regarding claims 9, 20, and 30, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the methods of claims 1, 11, and 23. However, Hamalainen and Valentine lack what Kung discloses, 20 that is "...a Media Terminal Adapter-Cellular Transceiver (MTA-CT) having integrated MTA and CT portions (figure 4, element 300 shows a functional equivalent unit of applicant's 106 or 160; figure 3 shows the detailed version of element 300 where

element 345 is the functional equivalent of the CT and element 302 is functionally equivalent to the MTA as it sends and receives the voice data from the network)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the integrated MTA and CT portions with the method of claims 1, 11, and 23 for 5 the purpose of allowing connectivity to various networks (Kung, col. 6, lines 19-25). The motivation being that the more networks a user is connected to the more services the user has access to.

Regarding claims 10, 21, and 31, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the 10 methods of claims 1, 11, and 23. However, Hamalainen and Valentine lack what Kung discloses, that is "...a Media Terminal Adapter-Cellular Transceiver (MTA-CT) having non-integrated MTA and CT portions (figure 4, element 300 shows a functional equivalent unit of applicant's 106 or 160; figure 3 shows the detailed version of element 15 300 where element 345 is the functional equivalent of the CT and element 302 is functionally equivalent to the MTA as it sends and receives the voice data from the network)." Although Kung does not show non-integration of MTA and CT portions, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have the non-integrated portions because it is a matter of design choice. Choosing to have the portions integrated or non-integrated does not effect the overall function of the 20 device and both choices result in the same result. It would have also been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the MTA and CT portions with the method of claims 1, 11, and 23 for the purpose of allowing connectivity

to various networks (Kung, col. 6, lines 19-25). The motivation being that the more networks a user is connected to the more services the user has access to.

Claims 22 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

5 over Hamalainen and Valentine as applied to claims 11 and 23 above, and further in view of Jachowski (U.S. Patent 4,726,071).

In regard to claims 22 and 29, Hamalainen and Valentine disclose the methods of claims 11 and 23. However, Hamalainen and Valentine lack what Jachowski discloses, that is “switching the voice traffic to the same communication network as the signaling traffic when loss of local power is detected (col. 1, lines 57-61 where the signaling channel becoming “inoperative” (which also indicates the signalling network is inoperative) is taken to be loss of local power; it is noted that although Jachowski discloses the signaling channel losing power and reassigning it to a voice channel, the underlying principal is the same as a voice channel losing power and assigning it to a signaling channel, i.e. if a channel loses power then it is reassigned to another channel, it is a matter of design choice how the channels are assigned in the event of power loss).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the reassigning of channels with the methods of claims 11 and 23 for the purpose of allowing voice communications to continue in the event of a power loss. The motivation being continuous communication.

Response to Arguments

All objections from the previous Office Action have been withdrawn in light of applicant's amendments.

5 Applicant's arguments filed 16 June 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 32-34 applicant argues that the functionality of the "switch" is broader of that of a general switch and that applicant's specification fully supports a 10 gateway (CPBTG) inside the switch and that is what performs the switching. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Although applicant's specification states that the CPBTG may be integrated with the switch as is known to one with ordinary skill in the art, this is not what is claimed. As per the language of claim 32, applicant is disclosing a "switch" that performs packet to 15 circuit conversion; and as stated in the last Office Action, it is unclear from applicant's own specification what device is performing the converting, the switch or the gateway, thus the rejection.

As per the MPEP, applicant is allowed to be his/her own lexicographer, however, the term(s) that the applicant wishes to define, or redefine from their excepted meaning, 20 must be clearly spelled out in the specification (MPEP 2106.II.C). Simply implying that the CPBTG may be integrated in the switch and this is what converts the data is not sufficiently clear as to define what applicant regards as "a switch". Further, assuming

Art Unit: 2661

applicant's definition of a switch is to be used (i.e. the CPBTG is integrated in the switch) there is still an issue of vagueness because, as seen on page 6, lines 32-39 applicant gives another definition of a switch where the CPBTG is NOT integrated in the switch. Therefore, it is impossible to ascertain completely and concisely applicant's

5 invention with regard to the "switch" and its function.

Regarding claims 1-8, 11-19, 23-28, and 35-39 applicant argues that the signalling data is not sent over a different network than the traffic data, but rather is sent over the same wireless network. Examiner respectfully disagrees. As noted in the
10 rejection, Valentine discloses in col. 3, lines 11-17 that the "*signaling involved in establishing the call connection takes place on a different network, which is shown by the dotted lines, then the transmission of voice and/or data to or from the MS 20, which is shown by the solid lines.*" This is exactly the limitation of claim 1 that Valentine is used to read on. The air interface that applicant refers to in the arguments is not even
15 mentioned in the particular cited passage of Valentine. Further, applicant makes no mention of the networks having to be different from the mobile station to the base station, as such Valentine reads on applicant's claimed invention.

Applicant further argues that the motivation used to combine Valentine with Hamalainen is directed to a different aspect of Valentine's invention and is not meant to
20 be an advantage of having the signalling on a different network. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Although the motivation cited does deal with the different part of Valentine's invention, i.e. caching of the call setup information, it is still relevant to the idea of

Art Unit: 2661

having the signaling on a different network. As seen in figure 3, the call setup messages

are solely sent across the dotted network to the MSC which then caches them to be

used later. However, in order to access these cache requests the call establishing

signals must still be sent from the mobile to the MSC. The advantage comes in when

5 these establishing signals are received by the MSC and used to quickly access a call setup data previously stored. This benefit implies that if the signals were transmitted over the same network as the data traffic, even with caching, there would be more congestion on the network due to the extra signals and the call setup would be hindered due to the tying up (congestion) of circuits.

10

Regarding claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 30, and 31 applicant argues that Kung does not have the wireless interface that communicates with the wireless network. Examiner respectfully disagrees. First, as cited by the applicant in col. 17, lines 41-44 of Kung the functional equivalent 345 of the CT portion “interconnects” or communicates with a

15 “wireless LAN”, which is a wireless network. Further, if element 345 of Kung does communicate with a gateway instead of a wireless network directly (as stated by applicant), this would still read on applicant’s invention because applicant never claims that the CT portion must communicate directly with a wireless network. Since the gateway of Kung communicates with a wireless network and element 345

20 communicates with the gateway, it follows that the element 345 communicates with the wireless network through the gateway. Thus Kung reads on applicant’s claimed invention.

Regarding claims 22 and 29, applicant argues that because Jachowski does not explicitly disclose the data on the inoperative channel being switched to another network, that Jachowski does not read on applicant's invention. Examiner respectfully

5 disagrees. As stated in the rejection, Jachowski does disclose an inoperative channel and its contents being reassigned to another channel (in applicant's case, networks) in the event of a failure. It is true that the exact limitations of applicant's invention are not mentioned in Jachowski, but the concept of switching data from an inoperative channel to an operative channel is what is important. This concept of switching channels

10 combined with the fact that it is a matter of design choice as to what types of channels are being used, how they are switched, and to what they are switched is what is being used to reject claims 22 and 29. It does not matter if the channels are switched between frequencies, time slots, or networks; the underlying causes of the switch (i.e. the inoperativeness) and the final result of the switch are what is important. Thus,

15 Jachowski with design choice reads on applicant's claimed invention.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

20 A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

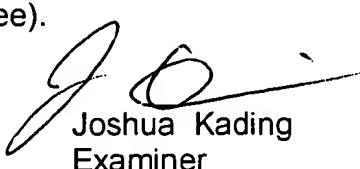
mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

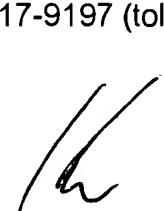
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Kading whose telephone number is (571) 272-3070. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Olms can be reached on (571) 272-3079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

20


Joshua Kading
Examiner
Art Unit 2661


KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

August 26, 2004

Application/Control Number: 09/677,060
Art Unit: 2661

Page 22